

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 31, 2009

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 18, 2009

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 22, 2009

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1130

Introduced by Assembly Member Solorio

(Principal coauthor: Senator Romero)

(Coauthor: Assembly Member Mendoza)

February 27, 2009

An act to add Section 52052.6 to the Education Code, relating to education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1130, as amended, Solorio. Academic performance.

Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to establish an advisory committee to make recommendations by July 1, 2005, on a methodology for generating a measurement of academic performance by utilizing unique pupil identifiers for pupils and annual academic achievement growth to provide a more accurate measure of a school's growth over time. Existing law also requires, if appropriate and feasible, the Superintendent, with the approval of the ~~state board~~ *State Board of Education*, to implement this measurement of academic performance.

This bill would ~~state findings and declarations regarding standards-based education reform, assessments, and accountability and the use of cohort growth measures in accountability systems and intervention determinations.~~

~~This bill would state the intent of the Legislature that the committee take into consideration specified recommendations and consider measures approved by the United States Department of Education that are already in use by other states. The bill would also provide that if the committee considers any measure of annual academic achievement growth, the measure of annual academic achievement growth by cohort approved in connection with requirements described above or adopted through a state plan, as specified, shall meet certain requirements. The bill would require the advisory committee, by February 28, 2010, to identify a growth model appropriate for use in California, and to make recommendations to the state board, and would require the state board to approve the model if it meets specified requirements.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 ~~SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of~~
- 2 ~~the following:~~
- 3 ~~(a) California began the 21st century among a small group of~~
- 4 ~~states that lead the nation in standards-based education reform,~~
- 5 ~~assessments, and accountability. However, other states have now~~
- 6 ~~surpassed California, particularly with the use of cohort growth~~
- 7 ~~measures in accountability systems and intervention~~
- 8 ~~determinations.~~
- 9 ~~(b) California's current public school accountability system is~~
- 10 ~~based on a static model that compares snapshots of individual~~
- 11 ~~school and school district academic performance by grade level.~~
- 12 ~~Therefore, determinations of whether or not schools have met~~
- 13 ~~growth targets are calculated by comparing the difference in~~
- 14 ~~achievement from one year to the next of different cohorts of~~
- 15 ~~pupils.~~
- 16 ~~(c) This accountability system fails to adjust for the fact that~~
- 17 ~~beginning levels of achievement vary each school year among~~
- 18 ~~cohorts. As a result, schools and school districts, particularly with~~
- 19 ~~middle grades and at the secondary level, are often unfairly held~~
- 20 ~~accountable for the low performance of the school the pupils~~
- 21 ~~previously attended.~~
- 22 ~~(d) The limitations of a static model make it difficult for~~
- 23 ~~California's accountability system to provide meaningful, reliable,~~

1 and valid longitudinal information to parents, educators, and policy
2 makers on whether or not local schools and school districts are
3 improving at a rate that will achieve success for all of California's
4 pupils within a reasonable period of time.

5 ~~(e) A cohort growth measure incorporated into California's~~
6 ~~public school accountability system will enable the state to more~~
7 ~~fairly evaluate the academic achievement of California public~~
8 ~~schools and school districts, and to hold them accountable for~~
9 ~~results.~~

10 ~~(f) At the school and school district level, measuring each~~
11 ~~cohort's academic growth over time will provide better information~~
12 ~~to assist educators in identifying pupils who need additional~~
13 ~~assistance and identify where resources can best be targeted to~~
14 ~~close achievement gaps.~~

15 ~~(g) Parents, educators, and community leaders will be best~~
16 ~~served by a public school accountability system that includes a~~
17 ~~cohort growth measure that provides consistent, reliable, and valid~~
18 ~~information as they collaborate to meet the needs of all pupils,~~
19 ~~each year.~~

20 ~~SEC. 2.~~

21 *SECTION 1.* Section 52052.6 is added to the Education Code,
22 to read:

23 52052.6. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that, in
24 conducting its responsibilities pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section
25 52052.5, the advisory committee take into consideration the
26 recommendations of the California pilot study conducted pursuant
27 to Provision 10 of Item 6110-113-0890 of the Budget Act of 2007,
28 the statutory and regulatory requirements and related guidance
29 pursuant to the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act
30 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. Sec. 6301 et seq.), and waivers for cohort
31 growth measures approved for other states by the United States
32 Secretary of Education.

33 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature that the advisory committee
34 established pursuant to Section 52052.5 also consider measures
35 *that are approved by the United States Department of Education*
36 *and are already in use by other states to facilitate the identification*
37 *of various performance levels of cohort growth, including, but not*
38 *limited to, whether each pupil, subgroup, school, and school district*
39 *made at least one year's academic growth in one year's time and*
40 *whether the amount of academic growth is adequate to reach a*

1 performance level of proficient within a timeframe specified in
2 the state's approved accountability plan required pursuant to the
3 federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
4 U.S.C. Sec. 6301 et seq.), and to provide the ability to determine
5 the following with reasonable statistical confidence:

6 (1) High achievement with a growth rate indicating ability to
7 remain at proficiency or to move into the highest range of
8 achievement.

9 (2) High achievement with a growth rate indicating ability to
10 remain at least at proficiency.

11 (3) Low achievement with a growth rate indicating ability to
12 reach proficiency within a specified timeframe.

13 (4) Low achievement with a growth rate indicating significant
14 inability to reach proficiency within a specified timeframe.

15 (c) If the advisory committee established pursuant to Section
16 52052.5 considers a measure of annual academic achievement
17 growth pursuant to Section 52052.5, any measure of annual
18 academic achievement growth by cohort approved in connection
19 with requirements of Section 52052.5 or adopted through a state
20 plan approved by the State Educational Agency pursuant to any
21 provision, or waiver of, the federal Elementary and Secondary
22 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. Sec. 6301 et seq.), or any other
23 plan submitted by the state as a requirement of receiving or
24 allocating federal funds shall:

25 (1) Utilize a growth model in the public domain that is not
26 proprietary.

27 (2) Be able to be replicated by an independent statistician.

28 (3) Be able to be fully and accurately explained, including the
29 generation of all results, the specification of the standard error,
30 and the stringency of the confidence interval used to determine
31 whether the annual change in test scores is statistically significant,
32 in a document available to the public.

33 (4) *Be consistent with regulatory and technical guidance from*
34 *the United States Department of Education for academic growth*
35 *models under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of*
36 *1965 (20 U.S.C. Sec. 6301 et seq.).*

37 (d) *On or before February 28, 2010, the advisory committee*
38 *shall identify a growth model appropriate for use in California,*
39 *and shall make recommendations to the state board at the state*
40 *board's meeting in March of 2010. After consideration, if the model*

1 *is deemed to meet all of the requirements in this section, the state*
2 *board shall approve the model in time for use by local educational*
3 *agencies in the 2010–11 school year.*

4 ~~(d)~~

5 (e) The Legislature finds and declares the importance of
6 transparency and full disclosure of the activities and
7 recommendations of the advisory committee established pursuant
8 to Section 52052.5. Therefore, the Legislature requests the advisory
9 committee, in making any notification required by Article 9
10 (commencing with Section 11120) of Division 3 of Title 2 of the
11 Government Code, to additionally notify in writing the chairpersons
12 of the Committees on Education and on Appropriations of the
13 Senate and Assembly, including, but not limited to, any activities
14 that may be conducted pursuant to subdivision (c).